CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A vehicle heads-up display system comprising:
- a source for providing a heads-up display onto a windshield of a vehicle; and

an arrangement for increasing the contrast of a heads-up display on the windshield compared to the background of the display on the windshield.

- 2. A heads-up display as recited in Claim 1, wherein the contrast is provided by tinting the windshield, at least in the area where the heads-up display is directed, and selecting the color of the heads-up display to be in contrast with the tint color.
- 3. A heads-up display as recited in Claim 2, wherein the tint and the color of the heads-up display are selected such that the tint is generally formed of at least one primary color that is not found in the color of the heads-up display.
- 4. A heads up display as recited in Claim 3, wherein the tint is only provided in a small area where the display is directed.

5. A heads-up display as recited in Claim 1, wherein the contrast is provided by capturing an image of the environment approaching the vehicle and controlling the heads-up display to contrast with the approaching image.

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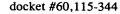
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6. A heads-up display as recited in Claim 5, wherein a control selects an appropriate heads-up display dependent upon said captured image.

7. A heads-up display as recited in Claim 6, wherein the control selects an appropriate pattern for the heads-up display dependent upon said captured image.

8. A heads-up display as recited in Claim 6, wherein the control selects an appropriate color for the heads-up display dependent upon said captured image.

A heads-up display as recited in Claim 1, wherein an area on the windshield is provided with a surface treatment, a light being directed onto said area to provide a glow and said heads-up display being directed onto said area.





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- 10. A method of providing a heads-up display comprising the steps of:
- (a) providing a system for directing a heads-up display onto the vehicle windshield;
 - (b) directing a heads-up display onto the vehicle windshield; and
- (c) modifying one of said windshield and said heads-up display to provide greater contrast between said heads-up display and an image beyond said windshield
- 11. A method as recited in Claim 10, wherein step (c) includes the step of providing a tint on the windshield, and selecting the heads-up display to be of a color with is in contrast to the tint color.
- A method as recited in Claim 10, wherein an image of the environment approaching the vehicle is captured, and said heads-up display is selected to be in contrast to the captured image.
- 13. A method as recited in Claim 10, wherein a portion of said windshield is surface treated, and light is directed onto said portion to provide a back glow, and said heads-up display being directed onto said portion.

- 14. A heads-up display system for a vehicle comprising:
 - a windshield;

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a heads-up display source; and

said windshield having a small portion provided with a surface to contrast, said heads up display source directing a heads-up display at said small portion.

- 15. A heads-up display as recited in Claim 14, wherein said tint and said heads-up display are selected such that they have contrasting colors.
- 16. A heads-up display as recited in Claim 14, wherein said small portion is provided with a backglow by directed light source at a roughened area on said windshield.

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